

- (2) There is, I think, no doubt about the slugs I described being Blainville's types; nor are these the only British-Museum slugs described by Blainville. The Museum is mentioned in the original paper.
- (3) It is very difficult to say whether inaccuracy of description, when there is no doubt what was intended, ought to condemn a name. If so, there will have to be considerable slaughter of the genera described by early authors, or, for that matter, by some recent ones. *Philomyces*, which Mr. Pilsbry thinks might be adopted, was also inaccurately defined. So far as is known there is no slug in existence really agreeing with the original descriptions of *Limacella* or *Philomyces* taken literally.
- (4) *Limacella*, Brard, if it is anything, is *Limax* of modern authors, not *Agriolimax*. But a genus founded for the shells only of species of the Linnean *Limax* cannot be recognized as valid, and the only authors who have adopted it are Dr. Jousseau (1876) and Dr. Turton. The former writes *Limacella* for *Limax*, auctt., and *Limax* for *Arion*; while Dr. Turton (1831) kept the name for the shells of *Limax* and allied genera, though spelling it *Limacellus*. We are told, for instance, that *Limacellus parma*, Brard, is "found in the *Limax maximus*," as though it were a sort of parasite!
- (5) I think it nearly certain that my *Limacella nebulosa* is Rafinesque's species *E. nebulosus*; but if so, of course that author described it incorrectly. Mr. Pilsbry will observe that I have given the reference with a query.

While on the subject, it may be well to mention that there is a figure and description of *Limacella lactiformis* (as *Elfortiana*) in Knight's 'Pictorial Museum of Animated Nature,' vol. ii. and fig. 2598. The figure is very bad, being a rough copy of that in Man. de Mal.; but the generic description, so far as it goes, is accurate.

T. D. A. COCKERELL.

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Preliminary Diagnoses of Four new Mammals from East Africa.

By OLDFIELD THOMAS.

Nyctinomus lobatus, sp. n.

Allied to and of the same size as *N. tenuis*, Raf. (*N. Cestoni*, Savi), but distinguished by its much larger ears, tragus, and anti-tragus, by the thinness of the ear-membranes and keel, and by its belly being pure white. Forearm 63 millim.

Hab. Turquel, Suk, inland British East Africa. Coll. F. J. Jackson, Esq.

Otomys Jacksoni, sp. n.

Allied to *O. irroratus*, Bts., but with two deep grooves down each lower incisor instead of only one. Basal length of skull 31.4 millim.

Hab. Mount Elgon, 13,000 feet. Coll. F. J. Jackson, Esq.

Rhizomys annectens, sp. n.

Intermediate in size between *R. macrocephalus* and *R. splendens*; externally very similar to both. Basal length of skull 51 millim., as compared to 63 in the first, and 41 in the second of the allied species.

Hab. Either Masai-land or inland British East Africa. Coll. F. J. Jackson, Esq.

Cervicapra Clarkei, sp. n.

Smaller than *C. bohor*, Rüpp., but the horns longer, slenderer, and less curved. Skull light and delicate, flattened from above downwards; lacrymal fossæ present, although very shallow; lower jaw excessively weak and slender.

Length of skull (occiput to gnathion) 210 millim.; height (crown to angle of lower jaw) 94 millim.; length of horn, round curve, anteriorly, 245 millim.

Hab. Northern Somali-land. Coll. T. W. H. Clarke, Esq.

New Researches on the Spores of Myxosporidia (Structure and Development).* By M. P. THÉLOHAN.

At the present time we possess but very few definite notions as to the phenomena of sporulation in Myxosporidia. The observations made by Balbiani †, Bütschli ‡, and Gabriel § have, it is true, determined the general course of the development of the spores; but many details yet remain to be elucidated, especially with reference to the development of the polar capsules.

We know that the nuclei of Myxosporidia are localized in the endosarc, where they exist in very large numbers. The first stage of the formation of spores consists in the differentiation around one of these nuclei of a little sharply-defined sphere of plasma, which appears to be encased in a delicate envelope resulting from the condensation of the peripheral layer.

We next observe this nucleus divide by karyokinesis. I have seen, among other figures, a spindle with absolutely typical equatorial plate, so that not the slightest doubt could exist.

* Carried out at the laboratory of Prof. Balbiani, at the Collège de France.

† Balbiani, 'Leçons sur les Sporozoaires,' 1884.

‡ Bütschli, "Beiträge zur Kenntniss der Fischsporospermien," Zeitschrift für wiss. Zool. 1881; Bronn's Thier-Reich, Bd. i., Protozoa.

§ Gabriel, Berichte der schles. Gesellsch. f. d. J. 1879.